(b) if so, what are the complete details of the scheme to be implemented from 30th January, 2003;

(c) whether Government are aware that Delhi Police is challenging citizens arbitrarily on petty offences like jumping of roads, etc.; and

(d) if so, whether Government would punch the licences without giving ample opportunity to the drivers and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have made a proposal to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 in its application to Delhi by, *inter alia*, insertion of a new clause to provide for punching of driving licence of a person who has been convicted and punished for an offence under any of the provision of the said act. That Government has, however, been advised to examine whether, *inter alia*, the insertion of the said clause might lead to arbitrariness and whether it was necessary at all to provide for punching of the driving licence as in the context of Smart Card based driving licence in future the relevant entries can be incorporated in the Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) of the Smart Card based driving licence through hand held readers.

It is imperative to rigorously enforce traffic regulations in order to ensure smooth and safe flow of traffic.

Deterioration of law and order situation in NCT of Delhi

115. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that law and order situation in the National Capital Territory of Delhi has deteriorated during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details of cases of rape, murder, extortion, dacoity etc. reported in various police stations during the above period;

(c) whether it is also a fact that cases of extortion and murder have increased in Malviya Nagar area of South Delhi during the last one year; and

(d) if so, the details of cases reported and what steps Government have taken or propose to take for the safety of residents in and around Malviya Nagar area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) No, Sir. In fact, the number of IPC related cases reported in Delhi continued to register a declining trend during the year 2002 also;

(b) The number of cases registered under these heads during the years 2001 and 2002 is given below:

	2001	2002
Rape	400	403
Murder	548	531
Extortion	165	126
Dacoity	52	47

(c) and (d) While the number of cases of murder reported during the year 2002 from Malviya Nagar area was eight as against six such cases reported during the preceding year, the number of cases of extortion reported from the said area during the year 2002 was two as against no such case having been reported during the preceding year. The steps taken by Delhi Police to reduce the incidents of crime in the Malviya Nagar area and others parts of the National Capital Territory of Delhi include intensification of beat patrolling; posting of armed pickets at strategic points; strengthening of intelligence network; close watch on and frequent raids at the suspected hide-outs of criminals; verification of antecedents of domestic servants; increased surveillance on history sheeters; coordination meeting with officers of neighbouring States; meeting with members of Residents Welfare Associations; and deployment of police personnel in plain clothes in running buses, market places, business places and other crime-prone places.